

Quarterly Report INDONESIA: SUPPORTING PARTIES, CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANIZATIONS AND THE DEMOCRATIC TRANSITION PROCESS USAID Cooperative Agreement No. 497-G-00-00033-00 January 1 to March 31, 2002

I. SUMMARY

In the fall of 2000, the National Democratic Institute for International Affairs (NDI) reassessed its program to fit the needs of a post-election Indonesia. While the Institute continues its work with political parties, the legislature and civil society organizations, it has expanded political party and civil society components to include seminars, consultations, and training-of trainer workshops at the provincial and district levels.

Because political parties are stable components of democratic systems, NDI works to promote the consolidation and development of democratic political parties. This quarter, NDI conducted a seminar on political party bylaws to encourage discussion on several topics relevant to the statutes of Indonesian political parties, including the admission of new members, the election of party leaders and the relationships between central and regional party organs. NDI also conducted an assessment of its Regional Training Program through a series of consultations and discussions with political party leaders in North Sulawesi and East Kalimantan. In addition, NDI held consultations with party leaders in Papua in preparation for future trainings. During the reporting period, NDI collaborated with the International Republican Institute (IRI) and the International Foundation for Election Systems (IFES) on preparations to host a conference on political party strengthening in June 2002.

NDI also works with elected party representatives and officials at the national and provincial levels to promote ethical, democratic and effective practices. The Institute continued to provide technical assistance to the Commissions of the People's Representative Assembly (*Dewan Perwakilan Rakyat*, DPR). NDI also held meetings and consultations with the DPR Secretariat and the DPR Research and Information Service in efforts to help strengthen legislative support systems. The Institute continued to work with its local partner to develop an online database on the performance of parliamentary members – a tool targeted at helping parliamentary watch organizations, anti-corruption groups and the media acquire information on the work of individual legislators.

NDI works with civil society organizations to support public advocacy and NGO management efforts. NDI and the Faculty of Political and Social Sciences at the University of Indonesia (FISIP-UI) conducted a focus group discussion to assess the NGO Certificate Management Program, an intensive training on NGO organizational capacity building. NDI also collaborated with the Office of Transitional Initiatives (OTI) of the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) to conduct a capacity baseline assessment in Aceh. The findings of this assessment shall help NDI better design program activities for civil society organizations in Aceh. This quarter, the Institute also worked with local partner Bina Swadaya to conduct two workshops in East Kalimantan and Riau as part of its Regional Advocacy Training-of-Trainers Program. In addition, NDI collaborated with local groups to advance efforts to promote reform of non-state military revenues and propagate the 2001 Foundations Law.

NDI is working in the areas of constitutional reform, electoral reform and regional autonomy to support a more informed and participatory process of reforming the country's political institutions. NDI continued to provide technical support to the People's Consultative Assembly (*Majelis Perwakilan Rakyat*, MPR) Working Committee on Constitutional Amendments through regular consultations and the distribution of comparative informational materials. NDI also collaborated with the Hanns Seidel Foundation to conduct a series of seminars and roundtable discussions on legislation concerning the establishment of a constitutional court. In addition, NDI provided technical advice and commentary on the special autonomy laws of Aceh and Papua.

NDI continued to provide technical support to the Indonesian Forum for New Provinces, a coalition committed to supporting local council capacity building through the development of a trainers network. NDI also continued to provide practical assistance to local associations of municipal and city councils to support the associations' strategy building, local development planning, and capacity building.

II. BACKGROUND

Indonesian efforts to create a new democratic system present a historic opportunity for meaningful political reform. Following the resignation of former President Soeharto in May 1998, there was broad agreement that a more democratic political system must be established and a government with popular legitimacy formed to address the country's grave social and economic difficulties. In June 1999, more than 85 percent of the archipelago's 116 million registered voters defied predictions of election-day unrest to cast their ballots for the national and provincial legislatures, and district assemblies – rendering Indonesia's first free and fair elections in 44 years, and marking another step away from its autocratic past toward a new era of democratic transformation. In October 1999, the People's Consultative Assembly (Majelis Perwakilan Rakyat, MPR) elected a new president and vice president, Abdurrahman Wahid and Megawati Sukarnoputri, in the most democratic and peaceful transfer of executive power in Indonesia's history. Some months later, in a clear demonstration of its constitutional superiority over the president, the same political institution removed Wahid from office and installed Megawati to serve the remainder of the presidential term. The establishment of a legitimate government through these processes heralded a new era of democratic consolidation in the country.

Democratization in Indonesia continues to face many challenges. During the more than three decades of President Soeharto's leadership, political organizing was restricted to the three officially recognized political parties, whose leadership was approved by the government, and political intimidation and media censorship were the norm. In addition, while Indonesia has undergone a dramatic change in leadership and while the majority of Indonesians supported the election process and the broad call for political reforms, the extent to which certain sectors of the New Order, power-holding elite have actually accepted the concept of democratic governance and all of its implications still remains unclear.

Indonesia has experienced relative political stability in the face of global and regional tensions, and the country's leadership has managed to strike a fragile balance between supporting Indonesia's western allies and responding to domestic Muslim pressure. The corruption scandal involving Akbar Tandjung, Chairman of the House of Representatives (*Dewan Perwakilan Rakyat*, DPR) and chief of the former ruling Golkar Party, appraised the seriousness of the Megawati government in combating corruption. Tandjung was brought to trial on charges of misappropriating 40 billion rupiah (US\$4.2 million) of the State Logistics Agency funds to support Golkar's election campaign in 1999. The lack of public confidence in the ability of the legal system to endure political pressure instigated an intense debate on creating a special commission in the House of Representatives to conduct the investigation. Megawati and her party (Indonesian Democratic Party-Struggle, PDI-P) resisted this proposal, declaring the probe unnecessary if the legal system were allowed to work. These events raised wide local and international commentary on the role the country's political parties and their alliances play in Indonesia's democratic consolidation.

Previous NDI Programs in Indonesia

NDI's current work builds directly on previous program activities and relationships in Indonesia. NDI began work in Indonesia in early 1996 with funds from the National Endowment for Democracy (NED).

In 1996, the Institute began assisting the Independent Election Monitoring Committee (*Komite Independen Pemantau Pemilu* – KIPP), the country's first formal independent election monitoring organization. With NDI assistance, KIPP monitored the May 1997 legislative elections and thereby established an important precedent for domestic election monitoring and organized citizen involvement in the political process.

In early 1998, using NED funds, NDI initiated a partnership with the Center for Security and Peace Studies (CSPS) at Gadjah Mada University in Yogyakarta to promote dialogue about pluralism and democracy among young civilian and military leaders. The program brought together participants from Gadjah Mada University and the National Military Academy (AKMIL) in Magelang to discuss transition issues and the role of the military in a democracy.

Shortly after Soeharto's resignation, NDI rapidly initiated activities to respond to specific needs and requests for assistance in advancing the transition process. In early June, an NDI team provided guidance to reform movement leaders and assessed the political environment to inform the Institute's post-Soeharto programming. In July 1998, using NED funds, the Institute worked with the University of Indonesia to organize an international conference on transition elections

and political reform. Later that year, using separate NED funds, NDI brought party activists from six countries to Jakarta to discuss ways to encourage the development of democratic political parties throughout Asia, with a particular focus on Indonesia. Representatives from 12 Indonesian parties participated in the program. Also using NED funds, NDI established a permanent presence in Jakarta in July 1998. A grant from USAID enabled NDI to substantially increase its presence in country and the scope of its democratic development programs. With this grant, NDI supported domestic election monitors, the promotion of dialogue among political actors and political party development. After the June 1999 election, this program's goals changed to meet the needs of a post-election political transition.

Objectives:

NDI's current work builds directly on previous program activities and relationships in Indonesia. The objectives of NDI's presence in Indonesia are:

- To assist political and civil society leaders to encourage informed public debate and advocacy on issues critical to the success of the democratic transition;
- To support the constructive involvement of civil society in the ongoing transition process and strengthen the ability of civil society groups to work effectively within the new political environment;
- To strengthen the ability of political parties to actively and effectively participate in a democratic, multiparty political environment; and,
- To increase the ability of political parties and individual DPR members to play a meaningful role in public debate, policy development, allocation of public resources and government oversight and to conduct legislative affairs in an ethical, responsive and transparent manner.

III. PROGRAM ACTIVITIES

A. Strengthening Political Parties

1. Seminar on Political Party Bylaws

NDI conducted a seminar on Political Party Bylaws on March 27 in Jakarta. This event sought to discuss several topics relevant to the statutes of Indonesian political parties, including admission of new members, election of party leaders, relationships between central and regional party organs, systems of internal communication and conflict resolution, and procedures of financial reporting. Seventy-three participants from various political parties, nongovernmental organizations (NGOs), student and youth organizations, academic and research institutions, and the media attended this event. Seminar resource persons included Professor Gabor Halmai from Hungary, Professor Soewoto from Airlangga University in East Java, Dr. Satya Arinanto from the University of Indonesia in Jakarta, and Dr. Pratikno from Gadjah Mada University in Yogyakarta.

The discussions initiated in group sessions generated constructive exchange on the state of political party bylaws, and recommendations on how such statutes may be reformed and improved. The seminar proceedings and recommendations will be published and distributed to all political parties, interested civil society actors, and the media.

In line with this event, NDI facilitated a series of meetings between Dr. Halmai and several political party members, alumni of NDI's Political Leadership Academy, journalists, researchers, and academic lecturers.

2. Regional Training Program (RTP)

In February, NDI conducted an assessment of its Regional Training Program (RTP) in North Sulawesi and East Kalimantan through a series of consultations and discussions with party leaders and alumni members of NDI's Political Leadership Academy. A comprehensive report on these assessments was prepared to share with participating political parties and selected NDI partner organizations.

The RTP is a two-day training provided to individual parties in selected provinces, and designed to address the specific needs and interests of each participating party. In 2002, the regional training program will also be conducted in Papua.

3. Political Party Consultative Conference

NDI is collaborating with the International Republican Institute (IRI) and the International Foundation for Election Systems (IFES) to host a conference on Strengthening Political Parties in Indonesia from June 12 to 14 in Jakarta. The conference seeks to expose political party leaders from all over Indonesia to hear about and learn from other Asian and, to a lesser extent, European practical party reform experiences. During the reporting period, NDI met regularly with IRI, IFES and USAID to coordinate the details of this event.

4. Papua Consultations

From February 24 to 28, NDI held consultations in Papua with political party leaders of the Nation, Compassion and Democracy Party (PDKB), People's Mandate Party (PAN), and Golkar in preparation for the RTP and the PLA planned in April. NDI received briefings on the political situation in Indonesia's most eastern province, particularly the needs and concerns related to the implementation of the Special Autonomy Law, and on the status of the parties' local branches. The proceedings and findings of these consultations were sent to all the political parties for comments and additional inputs.

5. Official Meetings with Secretary-Generals of Political Parties

NDI conducted official meetings with secretary-generals of political parties to report on the work NDI completed in 2001, and to discuss collaborations in 2002. During the reporting period, NDI held meetings with Golkar, PAN, United Development Party (PPP), Crescent Moon Party (PBB), and Justice Party (PK).

B. Legislative Capacity Strengthening

1. Provision of Technical Assistance to DPR Commissions

NDI held meetings with Ibrahim Ambong, Chairman of DPR Commission I (Foreign Affairs and Defense) to discuss issues related to advancing reform in the armed forces, and to facilitating the discussion of state matters between civilians and the military after the military and police factions are no longer part of the DPR in 2004. The chairman shared the concerns of the Commission on the recent and potential threats of terrorism, and the new money-laundering bill. In response to the Chairman's request for technical assistance, NDI provided comparative information on issues pertinent to anti-terrorism, particularly issues linked to money-laundering.

NDI also held meetings with Benny Pasaribu, Chairman of DPR Commission IX (Economic Planning) and responded to the request for assistance in strengthening the Commission's oversight in the development of the hearings on the government's proposal to reschedule debt payments. NDI followed the hearings on this issue, and worked with Commission staff to develop a report on the hearings to help the Commission better publicize and circulate its work to the general public.

2. Legislative Support Systems

NDI held meetings and consultations with the chairman and members of the DPR Center of Research and Information Services in efforts to help strengthen legislative support systems. During the reporting period, NDI also continued to circulate materials on legislative ethics, committees in the legislature, and legislative capacity strengthening.

The First Assistant to the DPR Secretary-General requested that NDI conduct a seminar on legislative support units and systems to help strengthen the capacity of the DPR secretariat staff in the legal drafting process. Discussions on this matter focused on involving the members of the Legislative Committee (*Badan Legislasi - Baleg*) and Commission II (Internal Affairs and Political Laws), and legal drafters from the legislative and executive branches.

3. Indonesian Women's Political Caucus

NDI continued to support and assist the Indonesian Women's Political Caucus (*Kaukus Perempuan Politik*, KPPI), a multi-partisan organization committed to increasing and strengthening women's participation and representation in Indonesian public life. The Institute continued to conduct meetings and consultations to help the Caucus establish and strengthen the capacity of its secretariat, and to coordinate initiatives in 2002.

4. Parliamentary Database

NDI continued to cooperate with local partner Lembaga Studi Pengembangan Pers (LSPP) to develop an online database on the performance of parliamentary members. This database shall compile existing documents, including the legislative record, wealth declarations and media reports of members of the national legislature. The database shall be made accessible

to the public through the internet, and is targeted at helping parliamentary watch NGOs, anticorruption groups and the media.

C. Supporting Civil Society

1. Focus Group Discussion on NGO Management Certificate Program

NDI, in cooperation with the Faculty of Political and Social Sciences at the University of Indonesia (FISIP-UI), conducted a focus group discussion to assess the implementation of the NGO Management Certificate Program, an intensive training that offers technical instruction on organizational capacity-building to NGO managers and individuals working with NGOs. Five NGO representatives from Riau, East Kalimantan and Jakarta participated in the discussion.

Although the representatives identified several NGOs for their ability to perform their roles effectively, they all concluded that the general performance of NGOs is still poor. According to the participants, this state is due to a number of factors: internal conflicts, dependency on funding agencies, lack of a strong community base, conventional paradigms of thought, and weaknesses in networking skills. The participants noted that the process of implementing the Certificate Program was transparent and democratic. However, they suggested that the program could benefit from certain adjustments so as to keep the training course from being overly academic.

The findings of the focus group discussion were presented and discussed at the Program Advisory Group meeting held on March 26. Necessary modifications to the Certificate Program will be based on the recommendations generated by the focus group discussion and the Program Advisory Group.

2. Aceh Baseline Assessment

NDI collaborated with OTI-USAID to conduct a capacity baseline assessment in Aceh from January 21 to 24. Two focus group discussions were organized involving local NGOs and community development groups, including organizations focused on women's issues, human rights and environmental issues. NDI also held consultations with local legislators, academics and religious leaders. The findings of this assessment shall be used to help NDI better design future activities, including a management training program for NGOs in Aceh.

3. Supporting the Indonesian Institute for Investigative Journalism (IIIJ)

NDI continued to assist its local partner, the Indonesian Institute for Investigative Journalism (IIIJ) in identifying a potential donor institution to allow IIIJ to continue its work. NDI continued to hold meetings with the Royal Embassy of the Netherlands to discuss possible partnership, and helped IIIJ develop a proposal for possible funding from the Embassy. In March, NDI conducted a pre-assessment of IIIJ to better define the scope of the organization's capacity building program.

4. Regional Advocacy Training-of-Trainers Program

In February, NDI collaborated with local partner Bina Swadaya, a community development organization, to conduct two workshops in Samarinda, East Kalimantan and Pekanbaru, Riau. The workshops were follow-up sessions to training workshops conducted in 2001. Eighteen participants from 11 NGOs participated in Samarinda, and 17 participants from ten NGOs participated in Pekanbaru. The participants presented the outcomes of their advocacy work, and identified organizational needs in several areas, including political analysis, media usage, fundraising, coalition development, and constituency building. The workshops included a session on fundraising facilitated by NDI Program Manager Jerome Cheung, and a session on advocacy research and the media led by Bimo Nugroho from the Institute for the Studies on the Free Flow of Information (ISAI).

5. Military Enterprises and the 2001 Foundations Law

NDI held meetings with Indonesian Corruption Watch (ICW), a well-known, anticorruption watchdog, and Yappika, a national civil society alliance for democracy and the coordinator of the 31-member NGO Coalition on the Foundation Bill to discuss efforts to promote reform of non-state military revenues. NDI continued to work with ICW to produce and publicize a position paper on policy recommendations on military revenue reforms. NDI continued to work with Yappika to establish a national database on the sources of revenue of the military, an instrument that would help strengthen civilian oversight of military affairs.

6. Video Democracy Group

On February 14 and 15, NDI collaborated with the Video Democracy Group – ISAI, Yappika, and Off Stream – to conduct a workshop on exploring the possibilities of using digital video technology in advocacy work. The workshop allowed the participating organizations to establish a course of action for advocacy programming using video tools, and identified several technical and production concerns.

NDI and the Video Democracy Group conducted follow-up meetings in March to determine and clarify the objectives of the group, as well as the roles of each participating organization.

D. Transitional Components

Constitutional and Electoral Reform

1. Technical Support to MPR Working Committee on Constitutional Amendments

In its ongoing observation of the constitutional reform process, NDI continued to provide technical support to MPR Working Committee on Constitutional Amendments after the MPR reconvened from recess in January. The Institute conducted regular consultations between NDI staff experts and MPR members, and distributed discussion papers and other informational resources on presidential electoral systems, comparative constitutional arrangements, and their political implications.

Under the new structure of the MPR stipulated in the amendments made during the 2001 Annual Session, constitutional checks and balances between the executive, legislative, and judicial branches will raise the imperative of redefining the law on Structure and Authorities of State Institutions. The revision of this Law may require dramatic changes of the power and authority of the MPR, since the MPR will no longer be the highest state institution that represents the sovereignty of the people. This may include, among others, a provision to build a mechanism of the MPR as a joint session of the DPR and the House of the Regional Representatives (*Dewan Perwakilan Daerah*, DPD). In addition, some new legislation will be necessary to establish new state institutions, such as the Constitutional Court, the Judicial Commission, an independent Election Administration Commission, a second chamber of the House of Representatives, and the DPD.

Any non-constitutional amendments to MPR Decrees have been delegated to the Ad Hoc Committee II (PAH II), and this process is considered particularly important this year as the Committee is delegated to draft a MPR decree on presidential election procedures (MPR Decree no. VI/MPR/1999) as part of the amendments that are to be made. In addition, the Committee is to draft a MPR decree on the power of judicial review before the establishment of the Constitutional Court, which is endorsed by the third amendment to the constitution.

The existing Political Laws – Law No. 3/1999 on Political Party Law, Law No. 4/1999 on Elections, and Law No. 5/1999 on Structure and Authorities of the State Institutions – are going to be revised concurrently with the Amendment to the 1945 Constitution. Direct presidential election and election of the member of the House of Representatives of the Regions (*Dewan Perwakilan Daerah*, DPD) require the revision of the Election Law, and a new electoral system could possibly be included in the revision for this purpose.

2. Technical Assistance and Commentary on Electoral System Legislation in Aceh

During the reporting period, NDI continued to provide technical advice and commentary to the draft regional regulation (Qanun) on the direct election in Aceh. This draft was initiated by NDI's local partner, the Center for Electoral Reform (CETRO), last December. The legislation on the electoral system will allow for direct selection of the local governor, mayor, and municipal representatives.

3. Women Representation in the Papuan Upper House

From February 25 to 26, NDI participated in an OTI seminar on the issue of women representation in the Papuan Upper House (*Majelis Rakyat Papua*, MRP). Law No. 21/DPR/2001 on the Special Autonomy for Papua stipulates that a third of the MRP shall be made up of women representatives. This representation raises the urgency of drafting a law on procedures and rules of the MRP, including the electoral system for its members. The seminar addressed these issues, and further elaborated on the law-making process of electing women representatives, and the selection and nomination of women candidates. From February 27 to March 1, the Institute met potential partners in Papua to identify and assess the issues related to the implementation of the Special Autonomy Law in Papua.

4. Publication on Women Representation and the Electoral System

At a press conference on March 8, International Women's Day, NDI and the State Ministry of Women Empowerment formally launched a joint publication entitled "Women Representation and the Electoral System: How to Increase Women Representation in Politics." This publication contains the proceedings and seminar papers of the international seminar and workshop of the same title held on June 21, 2001. The publication also contains position papers from each of the political party delegations that participated in the seminar: Golkar, PDI-P, PKB, PPP, PAN, PDKB. The publication, available in Bahasa Indonesia, was distributed to the political party fractions in the DPR and MPR, all women members of the Parliament, local and central government offices, the Election Commission, NGOs, research centers, and other interested recipients.

5. Publication and Distribution of Report on MPR Annual Session 2001

The Institute published and distributed a report entitled "The Fundamental Changes that Nobody Noticed: the MPR Annual Session 1-9 November 2001 - A Brief Commentary." The report, released both in English and Bahasa Indonesia, is part of a series of papers to track, record and provide commentary on the sessions of the MPR. Seven hundred copies of the report were distributed to the members of the MPR, and 60 were distributed to the Secretariats of the DPR and MPR. Copies were also distributed to NGOs, research centers, universities, and other interested recipients.

6. Constitutional Court Law Seminar and Roundtable Discussion

From March 19 to 22, NDI, in cooperation with the Hanns Seidel Foundation, conducted a series of seminars and roundtable discussions on legislation concerning the Constitutional Court. Expert panelists included Dr. Amara Raksasataya, Constitutional Court Justice of the Constitutional Court of Thailand; Sang-Hong Seo, Deputy Secretary-General of the Constitutional Court of Korea; Sung-Je Sung, research staff at the Constitutional Court of Korea; and Ulrike Muller, High Court Judge and senior research staff of the Federal Constitutional Court of Germany. The discussions were attended by the leaders of the DPR Legislation Commission, leaders of the DPR and MPR fractions, MPR Working Body Ad Hoc Committee I, members of the NGO Coalition for a New Constitution, members of the DPR research units, and members of the MPR and DPR secretariats. Panelists and participants exchanged views on a number of topics, including the powers, jurisdiction and regulations of different constitutional courts.

Regional Autonomy

1. Indonesian Forum for New Provinces

NDI continued to provide technical support to the Indonesian Forum for New Provinces (FIPB), a coalition committed to supporting local council capacity building through the development of a trainers network accessible to DPRD members in the new provinces. FIBS was formed by representatives from the new provinces of Bangka and Belitung, Banten, Gorontalo and North Maluku that participated in an interactive session facilitated by NDI in February 2001 as part of a larger regional workshop in Banten. This quarter, NDI conducted a

five-day training-of-trainers program on good governance in Banten from January 21 to 25. The methods and materials used at the training program were developed from the previous program conducted in Gorontalo in 2001. Three representatives from each of the four provinces, three delegates from Riau (planned to become a new province), and three members of the FIPB national board made up a group of 18 trainees. After the training, program participants worked on designing the first training program for Bangka and Belitung slated for April.

2. Technical Assistance Program for the Associations of DPRD Kota and Kabupaten

In 2001, NDI established a technical assistance program with the All Indonesian Association of DPRD Kota (City Councils, ADEKSI) and the All Indonesian Association of Kabupaten (Municipal Councils, ADKASI) to support the associations' strategy building and local development planning. NDI also supports the associations in developing their organizational structures, training curricula and general management.

This quarter, NDI contracted Tony du Sautoy, a British expert on local government, particularly on the formation of local council association and its related management systems, to work closely with ADESKI and ADKASI in addressing the management needs of the associations, and in developing materials for internal communications to member authorities and for training-of-trainers initiatives. NDI also helped ADESKI and ADKASI develop program proposals to acquire funding for future activities.

NDI conducted a workshop on March 25 to create a national secretariat for the association, and to guide the association in agenda-setting. The Institute also provided ADKASI financial assistance in conducting its initial strategic planning meeting (*Rakernas*) in Jakarta. The meeting was attended by 185 of the association's 268 members.

3. Women Councillor's Forum

The number of women who are elected members of local authorities is roughly estimated at some 400, or 4 percent of the total number of members. Many of these women members were first introduced to local government in 1999; in addition, most are either the only woman of their authority, or one of a very small group.

During the reporting period, NDI held meetings with the Regional Capacity Development Directorate of the Ministry of Home Affairs to initiate plans to organize a Women Councillor's National Forum. The Forum is envisioned to bring together all elected women members of local authorities to help strengthen the confidence of existing elected women members; to create an opportunity for the establishment of informal relationships and networks among elected women members; and to gain profile and publicity to encourage a greater number of women candidates in 2004. The Forum will include presentations and workshop sessions, and will be addressed by international women speakers with a background in local government.

IV. RESULTS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

A. Strengthening Political Parties

1. Seminar on Political Party Bylaws

• The seminar provided 73 participants with tools to better understand the importance of managing political parties through efficient working procedures, well-defined internal structures, relevant rules and regulations, and open communication systems. The seminar also served as a venue for constructive discussion on the role party bylaws plays in enabling political parties to contribute to the country's democratic consolidation.

2. Regional Training Program

 By using lessons learned from past RTPs, and by involving and consulting regional party leaders and members in assessing the RTP, NDI is able to better tailor its training program to the needs of specific political parties in specific provinces.

3. Political Party Consultative Conference

• The collaborative efforts of NDI, IRI and IFES initiated steps in providing a forum for Indonesian political parties to learn from the practical reform experiences of other Asian and European political parties.

4. Official Meetings with Secretary-Generals of Political Parties

• By maintaining cooperative relationships with the country's political parties, NDI is able to gain first-hand knowledge of the specific concerns of parties – ranging from issues related the overall political situation of the country to the particular issues related to organizational structures and processes. These ties help NDI and its local partners respond better to the needs of political parties.

5. Papua Consultations

• With the information obtained through the consultation, NDI is able to better tailor program activities to fit the local needs, concerns and capacities of constituencies in Papua.

B. Legislative Capacity Strengthening

1. Provision of Technical Assistance to DPR Commissions

• The technical assistance and informational materials NDI provided contributed to a more informed debate on a number of legislative topics, including issues related to terrorism and money-laundering.

2. Legislative Support Systems

- Efforts were initiated to provide DPR secretariat staff with more information on the roles and responsibilities of legislative support systems.
- Information on legislative ethics, committees in the legislature and legislative capacity strengthening in legislative-executive relations was made available to the Research and Information Services Unit supporting the DPR.

3. Indonesian Women's Political Caucus

• Through NDI's provision of technical assistance and support, the Women's Caucus made progress in establishing and strengthening the capacity of its secretariat.

4. Parliamentary Database

• The process in constructing the database has moved forward. These primary efforts respond to the need to facilitate greater citizen access to vital information on their elected representatives.

C. Supporting Civil Society

1. NGO Management Certificate Program

• Through the focus group discussion with NGO representatives, NDI identified the strengths and weaknesses of the certificate program and recognized adjustments that need to be made to better implement the program.

2. Aceh Baseline Assessment

• The baseline assessment described the particular issues and needs of civil society in Aceh. These findings shall help NDI better tailor future programs for Aceh, including a management training program for NGOs slated for next quarter.

3. Supporting IIIJ

• The Institute's support has helped IIIJ advance in developing a collaborative relationship with a potential donor. In addition, through its provision of technical assistance, NDI has helped IIIJ strengthen its institutional capability and organizational viability.

4. Regional Advocacy Training-of-Trainers Program

• Through the two workshops, 35 participants acquired better awareness of the capacities of their organization, and a greater breadth of skills relevant to advocacy work.

5. Military Enterprises and the 2001 Foundations Law

• With NDI's support, local civil society organizations sustained efforts to propagate the 2002 Foundations Law as a legal instrument to advance reform in non-state military revenue sources and transparency in military transactions.

6. Video Democracy Group

The workshop identified the possibilities of video technology as a medium for advocacy
work, and the limitations that still remain in its distributional capacity. The Institute
developed further cooperation with participating organizations to discuss and explore new
channels of message development and media usage possibilities to bolster the application of
video technology in advocacy and democratic reform.

D. Transitional Components

Constitutional and Electoral Reform

1. Technical Support to MPR Working Committee on Constitutional Amendments

- NDI gained an in-depth understanding of the issues pertinent to the MPR, allowing the Institute to assist MPR members in a responsive and timely manner. NDI's continued observation of the reform process will allow the Institute to sustain this type of practical assistance in an effective manner.
- Through consultations and the distribution of informational materials, members of the MPR and the MPR Working Body gained better understanding of numerous issues relevant to the proposed amendments to the Constitution.

2. Technical Assistance and Commentary on Electoral System Legislation in Aceh

• Through the provision of technical advice and commentary, NDI helped broaden the discussion and debate on numerous issues pertinent to the electoral system legislation in Aceh.

3. Women Representation in the Papuan Upper House

• NDI's involvement in the OTI seminar contributed to the information sharing on the particular implications of the Special Autonomy Law for Papua on women representation in the Papuan Upper House and the legislation required to make the law effective.

4. Publication on Women Representation and the Electoral System

• The production and circulation of this publication allowed a wide readership to learn more the discussion on women representation. This publication contributes to the literature on the subject matter, and helps support a more informed debate on the importance of empowering women in politics.

5. Publication and Distribution of Report on MPR Annual Session 2001

• Through intensive monitoring of the MPR annual session, NDI was able to produce a detailed analysis of the MPR session and the amendments and decrees passes during that session. NDI's report has reached a readership in the DPR and MPR, local and international research centers, universities, NGOs and among parties interested in constitutional reform. Through the circulation of the report, NDI has helped broaden the discussion and debate on constitutional reform developments.

6. Constitutional Court Law Seminar and Roundtable Discussion

• The discussions provided a comprehensive and comparative overview of the jurisdictional powers, organizational structures, and legal frameworks of the various Constitutional Courts in different countries. The presented information provided valuable resources for MPR members in their work on establishing a constitutional court for Indonesia.

Regional Autonomy

1. Indonesian Forum for New Provinces

- NDI's provision of technical support and assistance to the Forum helped bring about and sustain a vehicle for implementing future training-of-trainers and other programs focused on local council capacity building.
- The five-day training program on good governance provided 18 participants with tools to support local councils in the new provinces to expand their organizational and administrative capacities. Local trainers from Bangka and Belitung designed their first local training program, slated for April.
- Through the training and the assessment of 'lessons learned,' NDI was able to improve the materials and methods used in the program. This allows NDI to implement its program better in the future.

2. Technical Assistance Program for the Associations of DPRD Kota and Kabupaten

NDI's technical and financial assistance program continues to lay the groundwork necessary
to determine the associations' needs and to develop the proper programmatic response to
local legislative capacity strengthening.

3. Women Councillor's Forum

NDI and the Ministry of Home Affairs have initiated efforts to organize a forum to bring all elected women members of local authorities together --- an event that seeks to help establish relationships and networks among women members, and to encourage women participation in politics.

V. EVALUATION / CONCLUSIONS

Objective 1: To assist political and civil society leaders to encourage informed public debate and advocacy on issues critical to the success of the democratic transition.

- Efforts focused on empowering women in the political process continue to expand at the regional and national levels. Work with the Ministry of Home Affairs and the Women's Political Caucus have helped concretized strategies in promoting women's participation in Indonesian politics.
- By refining the NGO Certificate Management Program, future participants of the program
 will benefit from an improved process of implementing training on organizational, structural,
 human resource and finance management. The findings of the focus group discussions and
 capacity baseline assessment in Aceh allow NDI to better tailor its programs civil society
 actors and political parties in Aceh.

Objective 2: To support the constructive involvement of civil society in the ongoing transition process and strengthen the ability of civil society groups to work effectively within the new political environment

- The possibilities of video technology have been analyzed and discussed as a medium for promoting advocacy work. Cooperation among local groups has been established to focus on this effort.
- Local civil society organizations have sustained efforts to propagate new legislation to advance reform, particularly in the arena of civilian oversight of military enterprises.
- Regional advocacy trainings have helped more participants acquire knowledge and skills relevant to the design and implementation of effective advocacy strategies.
- NDI's provision of technical support has helped IIIJ strengthen its institutional capability and organizational viability.

Objective 3: To strengthen the ability of political parties to actively and effectively participate in a democratic, multiparty political environment

 Through the seminar on party bylaws, participants acquired tools to help improve organizational governance and management of political parties. Participants gained a better understanding of the importance of developing the professionalism of political parties through efficient working procedures, well-defined internal structures, and relevant rules and regulations.

- Efforts to organize the Political Party Consultative Conference aim to provide a forum wherein Indonesian political parties would be exposed to and learn from the practical reform experiences of other Asian and European parties.
- Meetings and consultations with various political party leaders on numerous issues and concerns help NDI improve current program implementation, and allow NDI to better design future programs to help strengthen political party development.

Objective 4: To increase the ability of political parties and individual DPR members to play a meaningful role in public debate, policy development, allocation of public resources and government oversight and to conduct legislative affairs in an ethical, responsive and transparent manner

- NDI's response to requests for information and technical assistance has helped elected party representatives and DPR Commission members engage more fully in legislative debate, and has bolstered efforts to inform the general public of the work of the legislature.
- Efforts to assist the legislative secretariat and the DPR Research and Information Service have caused these bodies to be more aware of the current weaknesses in legislative support, and prompted requests for training and expert consultation.
- Support for the national associations of regional district and municipal leaders will provide a
 needed forum for problem sharing, learning, policy development and ultimately, a
 community of peers.
- Through NDI's provision of technical support, the Indonesian Forum for New provinces is moving forward in organizing training-of-trainer workshops and other programs focused on local council capacity building.

VI. FUTURE ACTIVITIES

Strengthening Political Parties

- The Political Party Consultative Conference will be held from June 12 to 14. NDI will continue to coordinate USAID, IRI and IFES to prepare for this event.
- NDI will conduct the 4th Political Leadership Academy from April 15 to 23, 2002 in Jakarta. The PLA is an intensive training program on political leadership and party organizing for young party leaders and activists.
- A Regional Training Program for PDKB and PAN will be conducted in late April.

Legislative Capacity Strengthening

• NDI will continue meetings with DPR Secretary-General to discuss a seminar on a parliamentary support system, and Commission I to discuss a possible study mission.

• NDI will continue to support the Indonesian Women's Political Caucus in strengthening its secretariat and on other initiatives.

Supporting Civil Society

- NDI will conduct a management training program for Aceh NGOs in April.
- NDI will continue efforts to conduct its Security and Democracy Lecture series, a run of talks on various issues pertinent to civil society's involvement in the country's security and defense sector.
- NDI and the Video Democracy Group plan to conduct video training workshops for NGOs in the next quarter.

Transitional Components

- NDI, in cooperation with the Regional Capacity Development Directorate of the Ministry of Home Affairs, projects to hold a Women Councilors' Forum in June 2002. The forum will invite all women councilors from provincial and local DPDs, and expects to draw about 500 attendants. President Megawati Sukarnoputri is expected to give a keynote speech at this event.
- NDI will assist the Indonesian Forum for New Provinces in conducting the first training programs in Bangka and Belintung from April 22 to 24.